

Recorder Reporter

Newsletter of two chapters of the American Recorder Society (ARS),
Chicago Chapter & the West Suburban Early Music Society

January 2010

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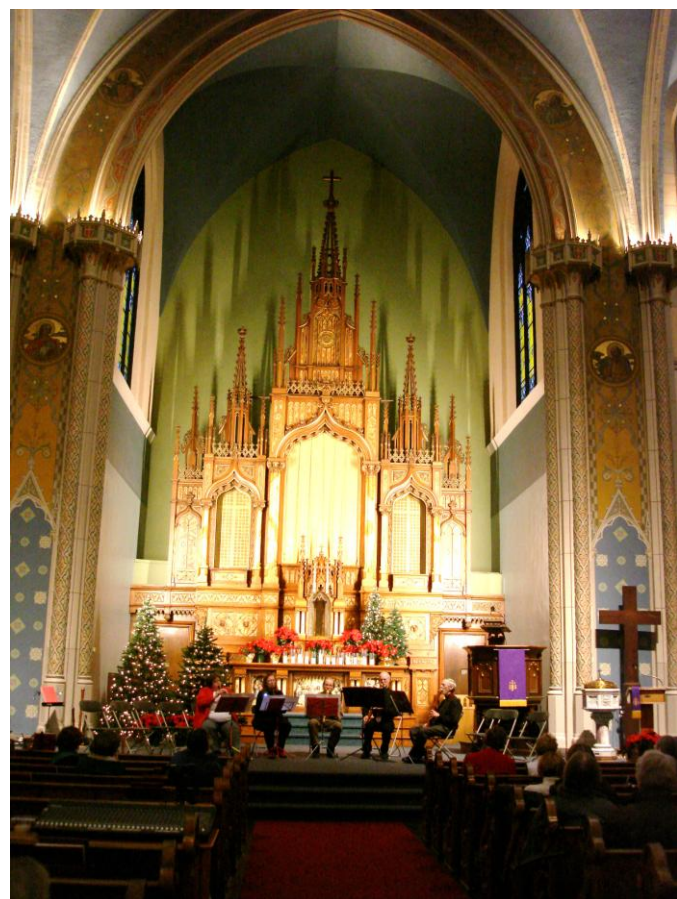
Yuletide Concert 2009

On December 20, 34 recorder players gathered in the sanctuary at Covenant Presbyterian Church. About 20 pieces were played, including some fine Renaissance and Baroque works and five pieces from the 20th century; Patrick O'Malley offered a solo on alto, and also directed the largest group, the Music Institute of Chicago Recorder Orchestra, with 13 members.

contemporary, Tomas Luis de Victoria (1548-1611).



Patrick O'Malley and the Recorder Orchestra



After Coffee Players



The Baron's Noyse

Performers featured some traditional Christmas carols, as well as two versions of *O Magnum Mysterium*, one by William Byrd (1543-1623) and the other by a Spanish



Ann Masur, Rose Mattax, and Alice Muciek

We can plan to have our May concert in the same space, or not. I welcome your comments about performing in the sanctuary at Covenant Presbyterian, instead of our normal space in their fellowship hall. The sanctuary is an acoustically vibrant and beautiful place to perform, but I neglected to tell my friends that while we were listening to medieval music we would be performing medieval acts of penance by sitting in the church's pews. We may also move across the hall in the education building to a smaller room for our regular monthly meetings.

In January John Langfeld lends us once again his wisdom and skill and heart as director, and Patrick O'Malley returns with the Recorder Orchestra of the Music Institute of Chicago. Here's the schedule for the rest of the season:

February 21 Performance	John Langfeld, director Dearborn Winds
March 21 Performance	Andrew Schultze, director St. Cecelia Consort
April 25 Performance	Andrew Schultze, director Da CLaN
May 16	Spring Concert



Home Street Recorder Ensemble at the Hemingway House, Oak Park, December 26, with visiting hurdy-gurdy artist

West Suburban Early Music Society

The West Suburban Early Music Society met on December 13th directed by Laura Kuhlman. For the first part of the meeting, we rehearsed the program for our upcoming winter concert. For the second part, Laura distributed Christmas "gig books" containing a compendium of Christmas favorites conveniently arranged in alphabetical order. Going around the room, each person chose a selection which was played by the whole group.

After the meeting, seven of our dedicated members stayed to participate in the Christmas Pageant of the

Naperville Covenant Church, which has been graciously hosting our meetings. We played about ten minutes of prelude before the program, and played a beautiful arrangement of *O Come Emmanuel* that Laura provided.

Our winter concert will be on January 10, 2010. In a departure from previous customs, the concert itself will start at 4 PM. Players will meet at 2 PM as usual to go over final arrangements for the program. Individuals and groups are welcome and encouraged to play at the concert. Contact Laura Kuhlman to get YOUR name into the program!—*Eric Stern*

Music Coming Up

Our friends with the West Suburban Early Music Society offer their annual Winter Concert:

Naperville Evangelical Covenant Church
1150 Hobson Road, Naperville, Illinois
Sunday, January 10, 4 PM, Free

Laura Kuhlman will lead. Join them for excellent music and a reception to follow. For additional information, contact Eric Stern (egstern1@netscape.net).

Golosa, the Russian folk choir at the University of Chicago, offers vigorous singing of sacred and secular folk tunes on Friday night, January 22 at 7 PM at Covenant Presbyterian Church, 2012 West Dickens. This is the host for the Chicago chapter monthly meetings, near the corner of Damen & Armitage. Visit www.golosa.org to learn more. Tickets cost \$10 at the door.

The Oak Park Symphony Orchestra performs on Sunday, February 14 at 4 PM at the First United Church, 848 Lake Street in Oak Park. Amy Pikler and Kay Clements play recorder in *La Campanella* by Paganini, and in Bach's *Brandenburg Concerto #4*. The program also includes Beethoven's *Ninth Symphony*. Single tickets are available on the day of the concert for \$20, seniors \$15. Children through college age are free.

The Chicago Chapter (51 years) is not the only historic music institution in these parts. The University of Chicago Folk Festival, February 12-14, celebrates its 50th anniversary in 2010 (www.uofcfolk.org), and so does the Early Music Festival, June 4-6, at the University of Wisconsin/ Whitewater.

The 2010 Bach Week Festival approaches. On Friday, April 23 at 7:30 PM, St. Luke's Episcopal Church, 939 Hinman, hosts an organ and brass spectacular. Sunday April 25 and Friday, April 30 the events are at the Nichols Concert Hall, 1490 Chicago Avenue in Evanston, both at 7:30 PM, and both all Bach, all the time. On Sunday enjoy the concerto for Violin & Orchestra in E Major, *Brandenburg Concerto #1*, and

Cantata 147. The Friday schedule offers Overture #2 for Flute and Orchestra, the Concerto for Violin, Oboe, and Orchestra in C minor, and the Magnificat in D Major. For more information call (847) 648-0813 or go to www.bachweek.org.

The 11th annual Handel Week Festival is coming up February 20 & 26 and March 7, 2010, at Grace Episcopal Church, 924 Lake Street in Oak Park. On February 20 the Handel Week Orchestra and Chorus offers *Jubilate & Te Deum for the Peace of Utrecht* at 7:30 PM. Friday, February 26 (also at 7:30) features cantatas by Handel, Scarlatti, and Bach, and on March 7 (3 PM) they offer Handel's opera *Rodelinda, Regina de' Longobardi*. A fund raiser is available on May 2 from 2:30 to 5 PM in River Forest. To learn more call (708) 383-2261 or visit www.handelweek.com.

The Newberry Consort offers *By a Celestial Fountain: Music of William Byrd*, Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, April 23-25. Friday's performance is at 8 PM at Lutkin Hall of Northwestern University. Saturday's concert, also at 8, is in Rockefeller Chapel at the University of Chicago. Sunday at 7 PM finds the consort at Fourth Presbyterian Church on north Michigan Avenue. The consort includes viols, voices, and harpsichord. Call (312) 255-3610 or visit newberryconsort.org.

Seeking Memories

If you have memories of recorder playing in the Midwest from years past that you would like to share with ARS members, please send them to me at msjddawson@sbcglobal.net or to 2425 West Leland Avenue, Chicago, IL 60625-2913. I would like to have more historical essays for this newsletter. In November Louise Austin provided us with a history of the Oak Park Recorder Society, and in May of 2009 she told us her memories of the Early Music Festival in Whitewater. Do you have stories to tell about old friends and leaders? How about the Renaissance Faire, or long-ago groups or ensembles, like the Hyde Park Recorder Consort, The North Shore Chapter, or the Old Town Renaissance Consort? Or you could reflect on your personal history with recorder playing, and what you would like to see or expect to see in the future. We have plenty of friends with stories; I would like to publish some of them.

Tuesday Night Recorder Sessions

The Oak Park Recorder Society offers a fine way to gain regular experience in playing with a group. OPRS members meet Tuesday night, 8 to 10 PM, in the basement of the Pilgrim Congregational Church, 460 Lake Street. Go to the back entrance near the parking lot and ring the buzzer for the basement.

Interlochen Early Music Workshop

The world-famous Interlochen Center for the Arts in northern Michigan offers their annual Early Music Workshop June 13-18, 2010. Participants are invited to make and enjoy Medieval and Renaissance music. "Topics will include articulation, ornamentation, improvisation and ensemble arrangement in medieval and renaissance music. The Early Music Workshop culminates with a participant performance on period instruments. A limited number of vocalists will be accepted." Participants should bring their own instruments. For more information and to register, visit <http://college.interlochen.org/program/early-music-workshop> or email college@interlochen.org.



Officers Needed & Chapter Business

The current term of the Chicago chapter board expires in May of 2010. Dennis Sherman is in line to become president, with Larry Johnson serving as vice president. But we have other positions to fill. If you are interested in serving, please let Mark Dawson know.

We would also like to know your ideas regarding music for future meetings. In September we asked all chapter members to buy a copy of **The Recorder Consort** (V3) by Steve Rosenberg. Should we make plans to buy a different volume for 2010-2011, or would you rather continue to use the volume we already have?

Chicago Early Music Festival

Plans continue the city's Department of Cultural Affairs to sponsor the first annual Chicago Early Music Festival April 20-25, 2010. We were disappointed to learn that the exhibition planned for the Cultural Center April 24-25 has been canceled due to budget issues, but the Piers Adams concert for April 20 is still scheduled. Cultural Affairs asked the Chicago chapter if we would like to help sponsor the Piers Adams concert and master's class. This is an excellent opportunity for the chapter to join with the city in promoting early music and recorder

playing, and we will also be able to distribute our literature at festival events. Please contact Mark Dawson if you would like to contribute.

Chicago Chapter CDs

We still have over 70 CDs available, *The Winning Sound of the Recorder: Winners, Small Ensemble Composition Competition, 1998-2008*. Each two CD set costs \$10, or \$13 by mail. Send a check to our treasurer, Dale Fitschen at 1029 S. Clinton, Oak Park, IL 60304-1823.



OPRS, Brookfield Zoo Holiday Magic, December 30



Chapter Information

Our chapters are open to anyone, regardless of musical training, who wants to cultivate and sponsor love and appreciation of the art, history and use of the recorder and related instruments. Our meetings, programs and publications help members to come together and to find others with similar interests. Chicago Chapter Dues begin September 1, and West Suburban dues cover June 1 through May 31 and are due in September. Both groups include membership in either chapter and in the *American Recorder Society*. Members are listed in the ARS directory, receive *The American Recorder* magazine and

this newsletter. The *Recorder Reporter* is published monthly from September to May jointly by the Chicago Chapter and the West Suburban Early Music Society.

Chicago Chapter ARS (chicagoars.org)

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Outreach	Hildé Stanuilis (773) 363-7476 and Arlene Ghiron (afghiron@aol.com) (773) 525-4026

Chicago Chapter meetings: Usually third Sunday of each month, September through May, 2 PM, at Covenant Presbyterian Church, 2012 West Dickens, Chicago. Enter the front door of the parish building immediately west of the church and go to the large fellowship hall on the right.

West Suburban Early Music Society

President/Chapter Rep:	David Johnson (david.johnson@foresitewireless.com) (630)740-9220
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At Large:	James Heup (jamesheup@aol.com) (630) 851-5364
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Membership:	Carol Stanger (cvstanger@aol.com) (630) 789-6402
Hospitality:	Nancy Finley (nfelma3@comcast.net) (630) 554-4363

WSEMS meetings: Second Sunday of each month, September through April, first Sunday of May, 2-4:30 PM at the Naperville Evangelical Covenant Church, 1150 Hobson Road, Naperville, southwest corner of Naper Boulevard and Hobson Road. Exit I-88 at Naper Boulevard and travel south. The church entrance is on a side street, more obvious from Hobson Road.

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